

From: Derek Williams
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 9:23am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Dear People,

I am extremely disturbed by the proposed settlement in the Microsoft Antitrust Case. I have many concerns about the current and future behavior of Microsoft which I do not believe will be addressed by this settlement.

My primary concern is the monopoly position that Microsoft is seeking to garner in the sphere of network services. This monopoly position is being obtained through the 'innovation' of including client services as part of the XP operating system that work only with Microsoft servers and services. The protocols used by Microsoft are proprietary, and predatory in nature and do not seek to allow developers to innovate themselves. This, in addition to Microsoft's extremely poor security and system uptime record, especially recently, should serve to warn us all that our abilities to purchase products, exchange information and to be secure in the knowledge that our personnel records are kept private are all at risk. This goes directly to Antitrust as much as monopolizing rail lines or airline routes, it will impede our economy to a large extent, and allow other nations, who are taking a more reasoned approach to Microsoft, to prosper while the United States becomes captive to a Microsoft run internet. The proposed settlement will not impede Microsoft's ability to acquire and abuse a monopoly on internet services.

Other systems and protocols have been built, deployed and tested for years. These protocols started with an emphasis on security from their inception, and are currently the favored protocols used by a large percentage of developers. In addition, these systems and protocols continue to be developed in an open standards based fashion which receives inputs from many sources.

Many of these systems are already being encouraged by other nations, including the purchasing of non-Microsoft operating systems by universities, corporations, and the governments of these nations. This allows these nations to use the already existing secure and safe protocols that are in place. Allowing Microsoft to continue 'innovating' and crushing other technologies by 'integrating' these services into the operating system itself (considered poor practice by developers not in the employ of Microsoft) will put the United States at a distinct economic disadvantage. It is interesting to note that many of the secure operating systems are a fraction of the cost of Microsoft operating systems and allow organizations to spend IT resources on additional services and hardware, further improving the technological

capacity of the economies in which these operating systems are deployed.

Please take a more reasoned and rational approach to the Microsoft Antitrust settlement. Our Nation's economy and Security is at stake, Microsoft's prosperity is not.

Sincerely,

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